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11 August 1983


MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, National Intelligence Council
Deputy Director for Intelligence
Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence
Vice Chairman, National Intelligence Council (Meyer)

FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Soviet Economy

1. This interesting roundup in the Economist reminded me of the useful NIC memorandum of a year or so ago on how much ability the Soviets really have to shift resources from the military to the civilian sector. It also raised the question in my mind whether the Memorandum to Holders needs somewhat of a update of the estimative products over the last two years on the Soviet economy; the dependence of the military buildup on Western trade and technology, etc. It might be called for at this juncture, particularly in light of additional perceptions and questions arising from the Commerce review of our work on the Soviet economy and possibly the sale and review of our costing work.

2. This is something about which we might talk during September.


William J. Casey

Attachment:
Economist article,
"Can Andropov Control
His Generals?", dtd
6 August 83

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